

# IG Bulletin



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# **Inspector General Observations**

By LTC James A. Mattox, Command Inspector General

"Consideration of Others" or "CO2 Training" is something we seldom see or hear of nowadays, when it was once an annual requirement. Since then, the consideration of others methodology has been absorbed into the Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity programs and training is conducted as needed.

So what do we mean when we say "consideration of others?" It has been said previously that "Consideration of Others is [are] those actions that indicate sensitivity to and regard for the feelings and needs of others and an awareness of the impact of one's own behavior on them..." While there may be no standard definition, CO2 basically "involves the awareness, the actions, and the responsibility of the individual Soldier [or Civilian]."

How many times have you been in public, off duty, whether at a restaurant with your family or shopping at the commissary, when you hear a Soldier or Civilian drop the "F-bomb" or use

a few other choice words like they were common everyday conversational terminology? This is a simple example, but the point is that many of our Soldiers and Civilians live in their own world, discarding the fact that what they do has an effect on their surroundings, especially individuals. One can argue this is due to the advent of technology where everyone has a Smartphone, communicates via e-mail, or spends the majority of their free time playing video games. No matter what the reason, the fact is that society is becoming more of an individualistic environment that relies less and less on the group, which in turn, creates a "Me" culture where people become completely focused on themselves and care not for those who they come in contact with.

If Soldiers and Civilians deliberately concerned themselves with how their actions or words affected those around them, especially their coworkers and families, and were determined to not have an adverse effect on them, then we could see a drop in turmoil or conflict at the workplace or home. This could also potentially improve the adherence to the Army Values by our Soldiers. Consideration of Others is a key element of "Selfless Service."

This is not to say that we need to tailor our words for every individual that we provide direction, guidance, or orders to. Many times this is not feasible. In the military profession, we cannot always be concerned with the individual, since we deal with hundreds, if not thousands of lives on a daily basis, but we must do what we can to be mindful of others.

As we counsel and mentor our subordinates, let's remember to help them embrace the somewhat lost art of being considerate to others. Doing so will go a long way in improving our organizations' effectiveness and efficiency, just by reinforcing the

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universal "golden rule" of treating others as you would want to be treated. It's a small thing that many of us have forgotten

# **The Inspector General Referral**

By Mr. Lloyd E. Dixon, Deputy Inspector General

The question is often asked why the Office of the Inspector General (IG) refers allegations of misconduct by Soldiers to commanding officers when it is one of the IG's functions to investigate misconduct. If the allegations are serious and, if substantiated, may result in adverse action or criminal charges against the suspect, the IG will normally refer those allegations to a commanding officer in that Soldier's chain of command, or the Criminal Investigative Division (CID) when warranted. If the IG conducts an investigation and it is determined that those allegations were substantiated, those records are not authorized to be used for punishment/

administrative action, so if the commander wants to hold the Soldier accountable for their actions, they must conduct their own investigation anyway.

When allegations against a Soldier are brought to the attention of the IG, our team conducts a preliminary analysis of the information received. The preliminary analysis is a process used to determine how to best proceed with the case. This process helps identify issues or allegations, identify the appropriate level to deal with the issue or allegation, and develop several courses of action. In other words, this process assists in determining which level of command the IG will make the referral for investigation. This

is typically the lowest level of command depending on the rank of the alleged Soldier, seriousness of the allegation, etc.. If the recommendation to investigate is appropriate for the CG, then an IG investigation may be appropriate.

Regardless of whom or at what level an investigation is conducted, the IG will use a copy of the investigation as evidence when writing their report. AR 20-1 <u>Inspector General Activities and Procedures requires IG's to resolve all allegations and issues within the Inspector General Action Request System (IGARS) database. Bottom line is that if the allegation starts with the IG, it will finish with the IG.</u>

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# **Texting while Driving on a Federal Installation**

By MSG Steven R. Jenderseck, Inspector General NCOIC

While driving along Sheridan Road to work this past week, I had a privately owned vehicle suddenly swerve slightly over into my lane causing me to brake faster than normal. When glancing over towards that vehicle while at an intersection, I could not help but notice that the young Soldier was texting on his cell phone. I followed the young Soldier to his work and explained that there are many bans on cell phone usage while driving, particularly on a military installation.

The Commanding General has highlighted this ban in the January 2014 version of the Fort Sill Blue Book by stating "The use of hand-held cell phones while driving on post is strictly forbidden. Hands-free devices or an ear piece is the only authorized method of using a cell

phone while operating a Privately Owned Vehicle." It goes a little further when mentioning government vehicles, stating "hands-free devices will not be used while operating a government vehicle."

Department of Defense Instruction, Number 6055.04, prohibits Department of Defense personnel (to include civilians) driving any vehicle on or off the installations, while on official government business, from texting, using cell, or other hand-held electronic devices unless a vehicle is safely parked. Like many policies and regulations, there are some exceptions to this rule: Emergency vehicles or other mission-critical duties, to include law enforcement use of in-car mobile data terminals and other in-car electronic devices. Understand that emergency personnel go thru extensive driver training to conduct their duty responsibilities.

In a recent one year study, 5,474 people were killed on U.S roadways, and an estimated additional 448,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes that were reported to have involved distracted driving due to cell phone usage. Remember, that these are the same roadways that our beloved family, Soldiers and community patrons utilize on a daily basis.

As a leader it is my responsibility not only to enforce standards, but also to teach and train so that others (particularly subordinates) know and understand these standards as well. A great time to share this information is during an organization safety briefing or prior to the organization being released for the weekend.

# **Commander's Requirements for Non-Support**

By SFC Juan Aguilar, Assistant Inspector General

The Inspector General (IG) has a limited role in matters involving Soldier nonsupport of family members. Resolving nonsupport claims is a command responsibility, and the IG's primary role is to act as an information conduit to the Soldiers immediate commander. The IG must ensure that the Soldier's immediate commander is aware of all complaints. provided copies of documentation, and ensure commanders understand their regulatory requirements. With that said, a large volume of complaints in regards to nonsupport have placed many commanders in time constrained situations when dealing with deploying soldiers. This is unavoidable as the Army consists of a majority of young couples and parents who may unfortunately have a fall out in their relationships. A recommended course of action to remedy uninformed Soldiers is for Commanders to conduct periodic training as prescribed by AR 608-99, <u>Family Support</u>, Child Support, and Paternity, dated 29 October 2003.

AR 608-99, paragraph 5-1 states "commanders will periodically brief soldiers on their obligations under this regulation. In addition, Soldiers will also be briefed, to the extent warranted by their personal situations, on these obligations during mobilization training, while processing under the Soldier Readiness Program (SRP) and during preparation for overseas movements, and in conjunction with mobilization, deployment, and PCS's." Officers

or NCOs may employ this training during OPD or NCOPD, but it is still the Commander's responsibility.

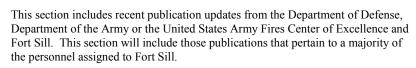
"Commanders will seek assistance from their servicing SJA office on the scope and content of group and individual briefings." The following should be included in the briefing: failure to provide support to family members on a monthly basis is a violation of a lawful general regulation; Soldiers may be held in contempt of court for violating a court order; Soldiers are required to comply with visitation an all other provisions of court orders; and Soldiers living apart from family should work responsibly to coordinate arrangements or seek amendments of court orders on child custody, visitation, or related obligations.

#### DATE **Units Affected Inspection Topic** Inspecting **Upcoming Inspections** Agency 21APR 14 -FCoE IG 30th ADA, 428th FA, 434th FA, Family Care Plan The Fort Sill Inspector General typically 2 MAY 14 conducts at least one special inspection FCOE HQ-Det, USAG-FS, MEDDAC (directed by the CG) every quarter; and sometimes more when a special situation 2 JUN 14 -FCoE IG Warriors in RACH, WTU dictates the necessity. Other Inspectors 6 JUN 14 Transition Housing General (e.g. TRADOC IG, DAIG, FOR-SCOM IG) also conduct annual and guar-21 JUL 14 -FCoE IG 30th ADA, 31st ADA, 75th FiB, 214th **SHARP** terly inspections. Inspections do not al-FiB, 428th FA, 434th FA, 1 AUG 14 ways affect all units and coordination di-FCOE HQ-Det, USAG-FS, NCOA, rectly with the affected units will occur as **MEDDAC** soon as details are known. The following are the inspections that are currently on 8 SEP 14 -FCoE IG 30th ADA, 31st ADA, 75th FiB, 214th Voting Assistance the calendar that will potentially affect FiB, 428th FA, 434th FA, 19 SEP14 Fort Sill units and directorates. FCOE HQ-Det, USAG-FS, NCOA, **MEDDAC**

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# **Publication Updates**





## All Army Activity Messages (ALARACT):

- ALARACT 079/2014: Command Directed Behavioral Health Evaluations. (22 Mar 14).
- ALARACT 082/2014: Effective Dates to Coincide with Release of Updated AR 670-1. (25 Mar 14)
- ALARACT 083/2014: Announcement of the Total Army Sponsorship Program (TASP) 90-Day Army Career Tracker (ACT) Sponsorship Test Pilot. (26 Mar 14)
- \* NOTE—All Army Activity Messages (ALARACT) can be found online at the Army ALARACT Knowledge Center on the AKO website <a href="https://www.us.army.mil">www.us.army.mil</a>

### **Army Regulations:**

- AR 623-3, Evaluation Reporting System. (31 Mar 14) http://www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/r623 3.pdf
- AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia. (31 Mar 14) http://www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/r670\_1.pdf
- AR 672-20, Incentive Awards. (1 Apr 14) http://www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/r672 20.pdf

### **Department of the Army Pamphlet:**

- DA Pam 670-1, Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia. (31 Mar 14). http://www.apd.army.mil/pdffiles/p670\_1.pdf

### **Department of Defense Instruction:**

Number 3222.04: Electronic Warfare (EW) Policy. (26 Mar 14).
http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/322204 2014.pdf

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